



# *NEWS RELEASE*

## **WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT OFFICE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES WORKSHOPS SET***

**CLARKSBURG** - The West Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Unlimited Future, Inc. (UFI), West Virginia Minority Business Development Center (WVMBDC) and the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) West Virginia District Office, will be conducting a series of financial opportunities workshops throughout the state beginning Monday, September 27, and running through Saturday, October 2, 2004.

The workshops will provide the new or existing small business with information on available financial programs as well as provide them with resources they can use to start or expand their business. The workshops are FREE and open to the public.

Representatives from the above listed organizations and various local lending institutions will be on hand to answer questions and provide technical and financial assistance to West Virginia entrepreneurs. There will also be in attendance a representative from SBA to discuss their programs and services and how an SBA backed guaranty loan can provide between a 50 to 85 percent guaranty through local lending institutions.

There will also be information on SBA's Small Office Home Office Community Express loan program. This program provides loans in the amount of \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$15,000 on an easy one page application and requires no collateral, tax returns, business plans, and personal or business financials statements. Proceeds can be used for equipment and machinery, working capital, inventory or business expansion. Loans will be funded for a seven-year term with no pre-payment penalty and have an interest rate of Prime plus 4.75 percent. A packaging fee of \$475 will be required. Applications will be taken at the workshop.

Personal documentation required will be a copy of the front and back of applicant's driver's license; federal tax ID number for corporation or partnership or social security number if sole proprietorship; blank business check; green card if registered alien.

Locations for the workshops will be:

September 27 – Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, 1310 Market Street, Wheeling – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

September 28 – Gaston Caperton Center, 501 Main Street, Clarksburg – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

September 28 – Buckhannon Chamber of Commerce, 17 S. Kanawha Street, Buckhannon – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

September 29 – WVU-Parkersburg Campus, 300 Campus Drive, Parkersburg – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

September 30 – Unlimited Future, Inc., 1650 Eighth Ave., Huntington – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

October 1 – Charleston Civic Center, Charleston – 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

October 2 – Region 1 Workforce Center, 195 Davis Street, Princeton – 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

October 2 – Toney Floyd Construction Building, 921 W. Neville Street, Beckley – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

For additional information and to register, contact Rick Haney at SBA's West Virginia District Office at (304) 623-5631 ext. 230 or by email at [Richard.haney@sba.gov](mailto:Richard.haney@sba.gov).

SBA programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for the handicapped can be made in advance by contacting SBA in advance.

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